

Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

Petrowax PA, Inc.-Emlenton (Formerly: Emlenton Wax)

(new name - Honeywell International)

**Hill Street
Emlenton, PA 16373
Congressional District 5
EPA ID #: PAD004337127
Last Updated 6/23/054**

Current Progress at the Site

All production operations at the Petrowax (Petrowax), Emlenton plant were ceased in February 2000. The groundwater (GW) at the site is contaminated with a Free Product (kerosene, jet fuel, fuel oil, and heavier oils), benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene (BTEX) compounds, dissolved iron, and a Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH).

Systems for recovery of floating free product from two recovery wells (REC-1 & REC-2) are operating on the Facility. A recovery systems were installed on the site in accordance with the PADEP Order. Also, the active remedy system, “pump and treat” of contaminated GW, is operating on the site. The contaminated GW is treated on the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). After treatment in accordance with the NPDES permit water discharged to the Allegheny River.

According to the “Assessment of Potential Risks” of August, 1993: “the only point of exposure ... to the BTEX and TPH detected in the GW would be the Allegheny River. Potential human exposure via swimming or ingestion of fish would pose insignificant levels of risk. Use of the Allegheny River water as a source of public sources of drinking water ... does not pose a significant risk to public health. ... Therefore, remediation of the BTEX and TPH detected in the shallow GW at the Petrowax, Pennsylvania facility would not be necessary for protection of public health and the environment under current conditions. ... Given the current land use, future residential development of the site and installation of private portable well at the site is unlikely, and the overall level of risk posed by the petroleum hydrocarbons detected in the GW is low”

The corrective action on the Facility are performed under the PADEP Order, under the PADEP, Act 2 “Land Recycling Program.”

Site Description

The Petrowax, Emlenton facility located in Emlenton, Venango County, PA. The facility occupying 50 acres adjacent to the Allegheny River on the western border of the town. The oil refining facilities operated on that land from 1890's until 1980 under different ownerships. The Petrowax bought the plant in 1980 and converted it in the manufacture of petroleum waxes. In 1999, Allied Signal purchased Honeywell Incorporated and retained the

name Honeywell International. In February 2000, Honeywell ceased all production operations at the plant.

From April, 1990 the facility is not operated as treatment, storage or disposal (TSD) of hazardous wastes under RCRA. On January 7, 1992 the Petrowax PA Inc. has notified EPA that the Petrowax, Emlenton facility “is are no longer generated any hazardous wastes” and is not engaged in “petroleum refining” and should be reclassified.

Raw materials used by facility were slack wax and petrolatum. The operational process was: 1] a raw materials were delivered in tank-trucks and heated before it were off-loaded at the facility; 2] the oil/wax was mixed with the metyl ethyl ketone (MEK) and toluene (the MEK and toluene mixture was used to separate the wax and oil was recycled back to the head of the process); 3] the oil/wax/MEK/ toluene mixture was chilled; 4] it was filtered to remove the oil; 5] the separated wax and oil were sent through recovery systems to recover the MEK and toluene; 6] the wax was filtered. Wax, produced on the facility, was used in food, paper industry (waterproof paper caps), manufacture of automobile tires, floor wax, candles and different manufacturing process, depending on grades of wax.

Since 1995 the facility did not generated hazardous waste as a result of switching to high flash Naphtha (reclaimer in the re-run, “closed loop”, unit). The wastewater generated from the process was sent for the treatment on the on-site Waste Water Treatment Plant. Sludge from all production units was removed annually, and sent to the off-side landfill.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region III with assistance from the PADEP.

Contaminants

Free Product (kerosene, jet fuel, fuel oil, and heavier oil), BTEX compounds, TPH and dissolved iron are the contaminants of concern at the Facility.

Institutional Controls

Institutional controls are not required at this time.

Government Contact

EPA Project Manager
Ms. Victoria Ioff - 3WC22
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
Phone: (215) 814-3415
Email: ioff.vickie@epa.gov

For more information about EPA’s corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm

Facility Contact

Ms. Kathleen Shaver, Manager, Environmental and Regulatory Affairs
or
Mr. Richard Toscano, Project Manager
Hill Street
Emelton, PA 16373

The mailing address for the Petrowax PA Inc. is
230 Park Ave., Suite 610,
NY, NY 10169
tel # 212-818-1771.